

Indiana's Response to Intervention Academy

How to Communicate with Families about RTI

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Response to Intervention

- Indiana's Vision of Response to Intervention is a framework for **prevention, advancement and early intervention** which involves determining whether **all students** are learning and **progressing optimally academically and behaviorally** when provided with **high quality instruction**. Indiana RTI offers the opportunity to **integrate, collaborate, and cooperate** across various educational initiatives including, but not limited to school improvement, Title I, RTI, and. Indiana RTI is based on research for **family/school partnerships** implementing systemic change that incorporates six Core Components.

Components to Consider

- Leadership
- Evidence-based core curriculum, instruction, & interventions/extensions
- Assessment and progress monitoring system
- Data-based decision making
- Cultural responsiveness
- ***Family, community & school partnerships***

Integrated System for Academic and Behavioral Supports

Family and Community Partnerships at Each Tier

Tier 3:

- Few Students
- Increased Frequency
- Longer Duration

Intense,
Individualized
Support

District/Community Team
Building Core Team

Services across tiers are fluid and data-driven

Tier 2:

- Small Group

Targeted, Supplemental
Supports

Building Core Team

Tier 1:

- All Students
- Preventative, Proactive

Core Curriculum, Instruction, and Learning
Environment

Grade Level Teams
Building Core Team
School Improvement Team

Preview: Connecting to Indiana's Vision of RTI

- Communicate with families *about* enhancements to the educational process through RTI
- Communicate with families *throughout* the educational process / RTI practices
- Engage families early and often
- Partner with families for progress-monitoring and problem-solving
- Know your families; design what will work for them

A faded, light blue background image of a person's face, possibly a child, looking slightly to the side. The image is semi-transparent and serves as a backdrop for the text.

***What messages do
we NOT want to
send about RTI?***

Messages ***NOT*** to Send about RTI

- RTI practices are new!
- RTI practices take the place of special education services and processes.
- Students are Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3 students.
- RTI practices are only for students who are struggling.

The message we DO want to send...



Indiana's Response to Intervention Academy ~ 2008/2009

RTI is...

- About effective practices for all kids
- Increasing use of “what works”
- Improving the educational process
- Collaboration and problem-solving
- Matching instruction to student needs
- A responsive system providing support to students at the first sign of trouble

How does it look and sound at our school/district?

Answering the “**Big 5**” for your school/district



How does it look and sound at our school?

1. What is our core curriculum in math, reading, writing and prosocial behavior?
2. What do we use for universal screening and progress monitoring?
3. What information about students is gathered from families?

How does it look and sound at our school?

4. What methods do we use to involve families in:
 - collaboration and dialogue
 - joint student monitoring
 - the structured problem-solving process
 - parent/family implemented interventions
5. At what point are parents informed of their due process rights under IDEA 2004 to request an evaluation for special education eligibility?

Communicating with parents when a student is struggling...

- Provide info on range of gen. ed. interventions available
- Meet to discuss options and timelines
- Inform parent of right to request spec. ed. eval.
- Agree upon a course of action
- Provide progress data frequently
- Follow-up meeting and communication
- Document efforts *(Jose Martin 2008)*



How do you create opportunities to share information to families?



Indiana's Response to Intervention Academy ~ 2008/2009

What are some creative ways to communicate with our families?

Brainstorming Tool

The Morphological Matrix

Format (Media)	Topic	When	Where
Handouts Student Role Play	Behavior Expectations Progress Monitoring	Conferences Sporting Events	Library Major Employer

Format (Media)	Topic	When	Where
On Line Handouts Phone Calls Teacher Presentations Student Role Play	Behavior Expectations Progress Monitoring Reading Instruction Math Fluency Good Writers	Evenings Before School Right After School Saturdays During current routine meetings Conferences Open House	Auditorium Individual classrooms Hall Library Local restaurant Sporting Event

Take Home: Connecting to Indiana's Vision of RTI

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- Know your families; design what will work for them

References and Resources

- ***Schools, Families, and Response to Intervention*** by Amy L Reschly, Ph. D. University of Georgia
<http://www.rtinetwork.org/Essential/Family/ar/Schools-Families-and-Response-to-Intervention>
- ***A Parent Leader's Perspective on Response to Intervention*** by Debra Jennings, Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
<http://www.rtinetwork.org/Essential/Family/ar/ParentLeadersPerspective>
- ***Indiana RTI Website: Family and Community Partnerships***
<http://www.doe.in.gov/indiana-rti/partnerships.html>